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wednesday, june 27, 2012

vol. 117 | no. 153



Tomorrow:
High: 108 F
Low: 77 F



Friday:
High: 102 F
Low: 75 F

03

Paying extra at the pump
Wonder why gas is expensive
in the summer? News Editor
Andy Rao has the answers.

04

Let's talk about sex
Opinion Editor Kelsey
McClelland shares her
opinion about sex education.

05

Art is hard
Check out editor-in-chief
Joshua Madden's thoughts
about video games as art.

Country Stampede features Luke Bryan, Toby Keith, attracts music enthusiasts



Country Stampede attendees enjoy a meal before the Zac Brown Band performance on Friday night at Tuttle Creek State Park.

Joshua Madden
editor-in-chief

When asked if she regretted volunteering to participate in a dunk tank, Cassie Gerstner, senior in secondary education, said, "I'm starting to. I didn't know it was going to be so cold when the sun went down."

Gerstner works for Kites' Bar and Grill as a bartender and waitress and agreed to serve as one of the girls who sat in a tank and waited to be dunked. For a small fee, Country Stampede attendees could toss a ball at a target. If they hit it, Gerstner — or whoever happened to be sitting in the tank — got dunked into the water.

Gerstner did this all to get a free four-day pass to Country Stampede, where she said she had seen Luke Bryan and thought he was great and was looking forward to seeing The Band Perry.

"I don't know long they'll make us stay out Sunday," Gerstner said. "Hopefully I'll get off in time not to miss it."

Country Stampede is an annual festival in Manhattan that features major country music artists and the option of camping out in the nearby area. This year's festival ran from June 21–24 and featured artists such as Luke Bryan, the Zac Brown Band, Brantley Gilbert, Toby Keith and The Band Perry.

Even for some people who did not get a ticket for free like Gerstner, the \$130 ticket price for a four-day pass still seemed like a steal. Anthony Johnson and his girlfriend Ashlee Cooney, both from Lincoln, Neb., said that the relatively low ticket prices to see all of the country artists were part of the appeal of the festival.

"It's a bargain, actually," Johnson said. "Luke Bryan was ridiculous. I was pretty skeptical but he's an entertainer, I'll tell you that."

Cooney praised the festival's organizers' focus on balancing the cost of tickets with bringing in quality performers.

"They're really good

about keeping up with the main artists for a reasonable price," Cooney said.

For Cooney and Johnson, this was their second year coming down to the festival. The couple attends Nebraska Wesleyan University and has made the trip as a couple each year.

When asked what drew them back to the festival for the second year, Johnson said, "Just the atmosphere ... we're not used to this. It's laid back and relaxed."

Marissa Jager, sophomore in wildlife biology, and her sister Tessa, a high school student at Salina Central High School, said they liked the festival for different reasons.

"We like the Stampede because we get to wear our cowgirl hats and listen to country music," Jager said. "And the vendor food is really good."

Jager said that the music was a major reason to come to the festival.

"We like Toby Keith and his 'Red Solo Cup' — 'Red

Solo cup, you fill me up,' she said.

Johnson also mentioned Toby Keith's song 'Red Solo Cup,' saying, "I'm not looking forward to Toby Keith's 'Red Solo Cup' because then it'll be stuck in my head all day."

For Manhattan resident Dale Foster, the music was just an added bonus to the salary he received for working security at the event.

"The acts are always nice to see," Foster said. "I'm getting paid to see them while everyone else is paying to see them."

Foster, who has worked for sporting events for K-State in a similar capacity to his job at Country Stampede, said that he got the job by answering an ad in the paper and that this is his third year working at the festival.

"Really not hard work for the money, considering the time you put in," Foster said.

Foster did say, however, that at times working security can be a challenge because people at the festival often

choose not to use the designated bathroom areas.

"We catch them peeing back here and we're supposed to kick them out," Foster said.

Foster said that the security guards are not allowed to take actions unless they witness the event themselves.

"I haven't kicked anybody out because everyone was playing stupid, saying they weren't doing anything behind the trees," Foster said.

While ensuring that people behave may be Foster's job at the festival, Cooney immediately suggested another room for improvement.

"They should bring back the waterslide," Cooney said.

No matter how interesting Toby Keith's 'Red Solo Cup' or the waterslide might be, Marissa Jager suggested something else at the festival as being the most interesting.

"You can't get more interesting than the Jager sisters," she said.

Ogden resident could face death penalty

Biology professor's expert testimony crucial to capital murder conviction

Sean Frye
staff writer

Luis Aguirre, Ogden resident, was convicted on Friday of capital murder relating to the deaths of his 18-year-old ex-girlfriend Tanya Maldonado and the couple's 1-year-old son, Juan. The jury deliberated for a little more than three hours before delivering their verdict. Aguirre was convicted of killing the mother and child, then burying them in a shallow grave.

Spencer Tomb, associate professor of biology and avid botanist, was a key witness for the prosecution. While Aguirre said that Maldonado died accidentally after the two had an argument and that the son's death that same night was a result of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, Tomb's expert testimony told a different story.

According to Tomb, the grave that Aguirre buried the two victims in was dug at least a full day prior to the homicides.

"[The grave] had been dug at least 24 hours before and up to three or four days," Tomb said.

OGDEN | pg. 8

K-Stater headed to Olympics

Sean Frye
staff writer

K-State has officially produced a U.S. Olympian for the London games this summer. On Monday in Eugene, Ore., K-State high jumper Erik Kynard Jr. placed second at the Olympic trials and earned a spot on the U.S. team.

Kynard cleared a height of 2.28 meters on Monday, securing a second-place finish. Only the top three finishers who have met the "A-standard" at the trials are able to advance to the Olympics. Kynard also cleared heights of 2.15, 2.20 and 2.25 meters.

Jamie Nieto took first place, while Nick Ross finished third in the event. However, Ross has not hit the A-Standard, so 2011 world high jump champion Jesse Williams, who finished in fourth place at the trials, will join Nieto and Kynard in London.

This is just one of many accomplishments Kynard has achieved this season. On June 7, he won his second consecutive NCAA high jump title in Des Moines, Iowa.

There, he jumped 2.34 meters, which is the second-best jump achieved worldwide this year and his personal record.

At the trials, Kynard not only faced world-class competition, but the elements as well. Rain hindered many of the athletes in Eugene on Monday. However, Kynard won his first NCAA title amidst a downpour in Des Moines in 2011.

The Olympic Games open on July 27 in London, England. Until then, Kynard will continue his training and preparations in Manhattan.

'Anti-Stampede' brings rock music to Bobby T's



Bell Park Militia performs an original song for Anti-Stampede at Bobby T's Bar and Grill on Saturday night.

Event provides alternative to Country Stampede festivities

Karen Ingram
edge editor/online editor

While Manhattan was saturated with cowboy hats, sunburns and red Solo cups over the weekend, Saturday saw a diversion from country music with the Anti-Stampede Rock Concert at Bobby T's Bar and Grill. Three local bands with varying styles showed their talent to dozens of people and kept rock music alive.

Emily Johnson, talent buyer for Emily J. Productions, has booked the bands that perform at Bobby T's Bar and Grill since about 2007. Johnson said she liked keeping the music at Bobby T's diverse to attract many different kinds of crowds.

"If I'm going to come out on a Saturday, I want to hear live music," Johnson said.

The night opened with the

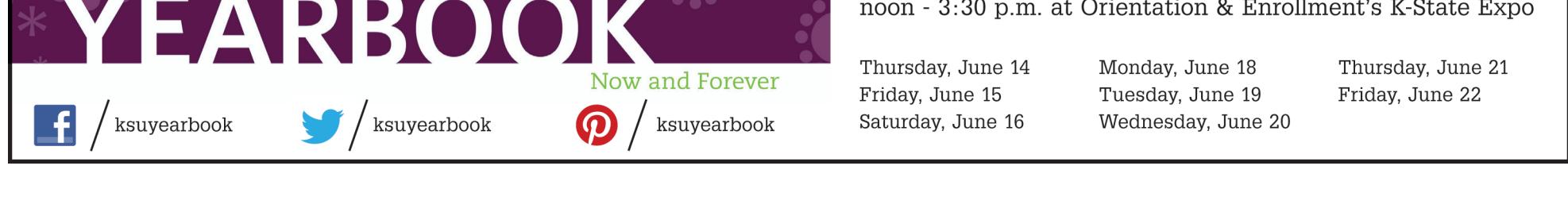
Bell Park Militia, a newly formed band that had just come together in December. The Anti-Stampede marked their first ever public performance.

Joe Orsi, vocalist and lead guitar player and senior in finance, said writing music was a faster way for him to describe his feelings inside than just writing. Orsi has been playing guitar since he was 5 years old and hopes to perform with his band in Aggierville soon.

"It's a way to get what you've been working on out there," Orsi said. "It's a lot of fun, too."

Travis Taylor, vocalist and rhythm guitar player for Gravity Difftones, described his band's style as a mixture of reggae, metal and hip hop influenced by 311 and Deftones. Taylor, a resident of Junction City, said he'd been with the band for about two years and picked up rhythm guitar a year ago because of

BOBBY T's | pg. 8





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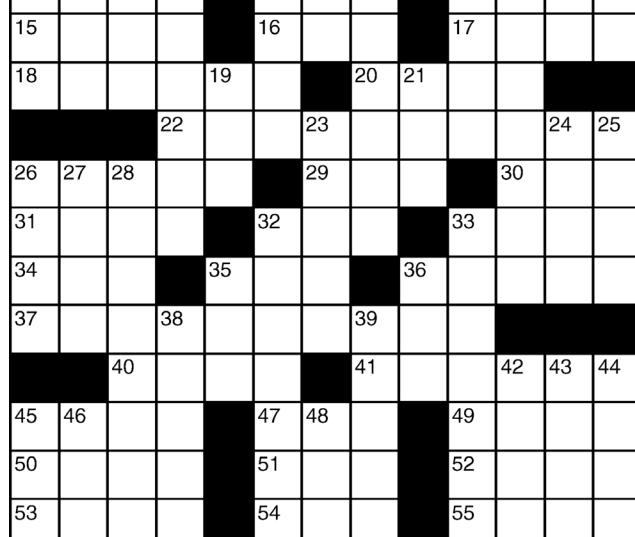
ACROSS

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- 5 Peace antithesis 36 One without a Y
- 8 Stage presentation 37 Watches, e.g.
- 12 Rope material 40 Mideast country
- 13 Coloring 41 Tie on
- 14 Queue 45 Judy's daughter
- 15 Banister 47 Grecian
- 16 Ovum vessel
- 17 One 49 Vicinity
- 18 Spread open 50 Top pair, maybe
- 20 Bullets and such 51 Aachen article
- 22 Sched- ules 52 Heart of the matter
- 26 Reinforc- ing device 53 Unembel- lished
- 29 And so on (Abbr.)
- 30 Ambu- lance VIP
- 31 Solemn promise
- 32 Mon- kini's lack
- 33 Cougar
- 34 John's Yoko

Solution time: 25 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 4-5



4-5 CRYPTOQUIP

M H B J D W E S Q H W U Q E M F I T D J O

H B J K G G D P D A U M " M F J J D M M

H B S G U J H B P I D O M , " H A U M

W U T K Q H B P H B A U P D Q H B P .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: QUARANTINED IN THE HOSPITAL, THE CANDY FANATIC ACTUALLY REQUESTED A DRIP OF PRALINE SOLUTION.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals N

4-7 CRYPTOQUIP

B W K V W N B S B P W N M G H K G L N G

C T B X U K F M D B C N D B V U F F

U Z B F X - V N G C D U H K V C K G L

Z C U C B S B G C: "W U D U H N P F N Z C ."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE THIS FRAGILE FABRIC RIPS SO EASILY, I GUESS PEOPLE OUGHT TO CALL IT TEAR-Y CLOTH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals T

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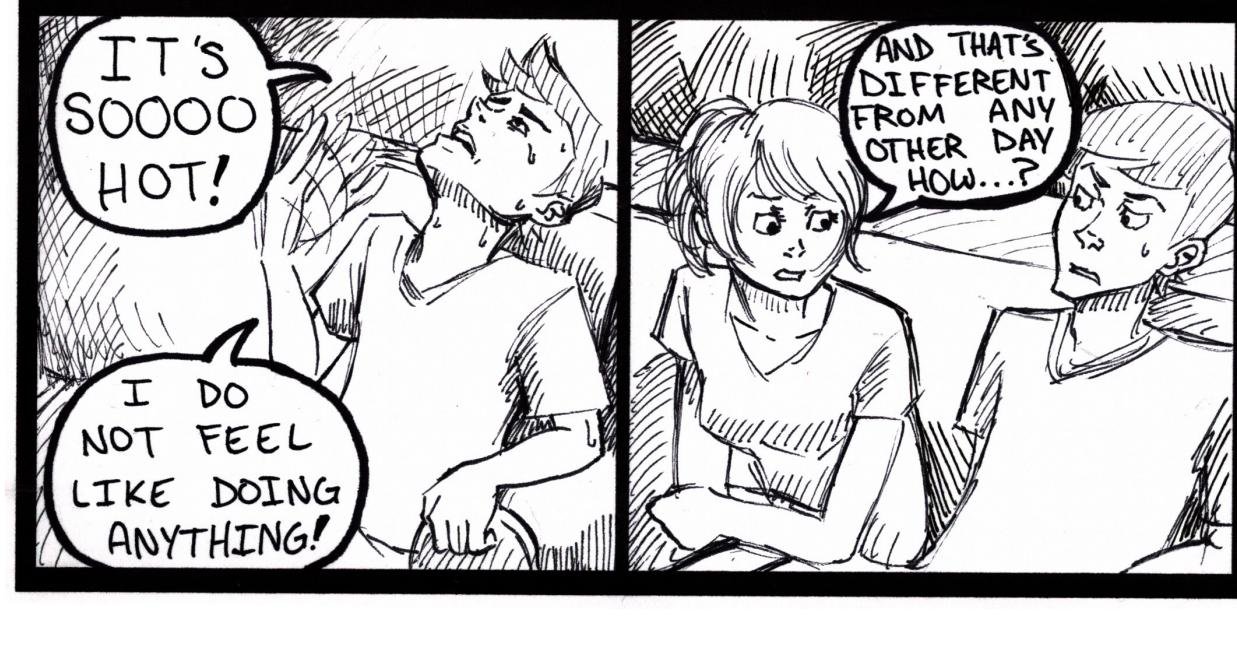
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Letters may be rejected if they contain abusive content, lack timeliness, contain vulgarity, profanity or falsehood, promote personal and commercial announcements, repeat comments of letters printed in other issues or contain attachments.

The Collegian does not publish open letters, third-party letters or letters that have been sent to other publications or people.

CORRECTIONS

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THE BLOTTER

ARREST REPORTS

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

Robert Neil Young, of the 500 block of Kearney Street, was booked for distribution schedule with intent, no Kansas drug tax stamp, possession of paraphernalia to grow or distribute marijuana and use or possession of paraphernalia to introduce into the human body. Bond was set at \$750.

Andrew Elsworth Sutton, of the 1700 block of Fair Lane, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$500.

Jeremy Dale Bohanon, of Wamego, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$500.

Jennifer Elizabeth Keene, of the 500 block of Stone Drive, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$150.

Tony Jay Kolterman, of the 2500 block of Farm Bureau Road, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$2,500.

Hunter Allan Freeman, of the 1100 block of Colorado Street, was booked for no driver's license in possession. Bond was set at \$750.

Christopher James Delfelder, of Meriden, Kan., was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$500.

Jerrod Kenneth Gibbs, of Pensacola, Fla., was booked for unlawful possession of hallucinogens and two counts of failure to appear. Bond was set at \$1,535.

Patrick Thomas Wood, of Harrisonville, Mo., was booked for driving under the influence, unlawful transportation of an open container, improper driving on a laned road and driving a vehicle without interlock. Bond was set at \$1,500.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

Sean Edwin Ruth, of the 2600 block of Kimball Avenue, was booked for driving under the influence, racing on highways and refusal to submit to a breath test. Bond was set at \$500.

Marquay Dreshawn Haralson, of Ogden, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$5,000.

Tyler Joseph Cindrich, of Shawnee, Kan., was booked for driving under the influence and failure to yield to an emergency vehicle. Bond was set at \$500.

BLOTTER | pg. 8

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

Troy Michael McEachroney, of the 500 block of

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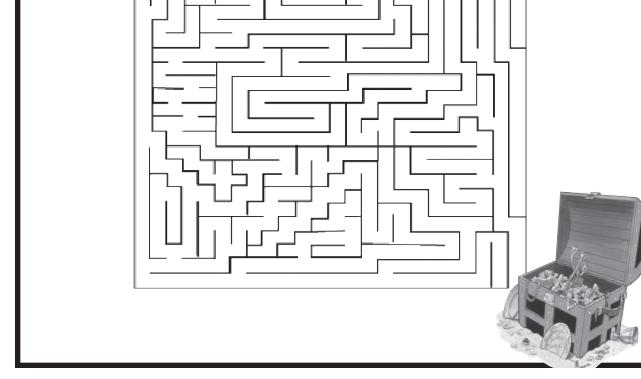
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MONEY MATTERS

5 reasons why summer gas prices are climbing nationally



Andy Rao

As the hottest days of the year roll around and students enjoy lazy days at the pool and a break from the hectic pace of the semester, there is one thing that can put a damper on the summertime festivities: gas prices.

The traditional spike in summer gas prices is back, and this year, we may be in for an unusually high upswing in per-gallon charges at the pump.

According to a federal Energy Information Administration report published in March, U.S. gas prices are expected to average \$3.92 through September.

Local prices are rising steadily; Kansas gas prices rose an average of 8.5 cents per gallon last week, settling at a state average of \$3.42 per gallon.

The volatile nature of gas prices is a source of confusion for many people. Here are five reasons that gas prices are making the annual climb this summer:

1. Traveling and vacations

Because of the sunny weather and more flexible schedules, people are naturally more inclined to travel to vacation destinations during the summer. This calls for an increased demand for gas, which pushes gas prices up. Inevitably, supply and demand come into effect.

When the demand for a good exceeds its supply, prices go up. Gas is no different, and since so many people depend on a full tank of gas in their cars, oil and petroleum companies can afford to raise prices without



Hannah Hunsinger | Collegian

The price of gas, as well as many other everyday items, tends to increase during the summer due to worldwide political instability, speculation and rising state tax rates. As temperatures rise, vacationers make summer plans and demand increases, so oil companies can raise prices without losing customers.

2. Speculation of rising prices

There is an element of psychology in economics, especially when it comes to speculation. The expectation that prices could rise causes a ripple effect of demand. For example, if prices today are \$3 per gallon and people hear speculation that prices could rise to \$4 per gallon tomorrow, everybody is more likely to rush to the pump to get the lower price.

This rush can cause a problem, because the sudden, drastic spike in demand can cause shortages in gasoline, which in turn, pushes prices up.

3. Uncertainty in the world

Within the last year, the world has experienced revolutions in countries like Egypt, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. These movements caused riots, political instability and uncertainty of the future.

Unfortunately, when international markets are experi-

encing turmoil, Americans will feel the effects, especially since we are so dependent on foreign energy sources.

4. Government energy policies

President Obama has been a vocal supporter for reducing America's dependency on foreign oil, a commitment that both conservatives and liberals have applauded.

The problem with attacking the root of the problem, however, is that prices will rise in the short term while we look for more permanent

solutions. Obama thus far has stuck to his campaign promises of minimizing off-shore drilling, a move that has most conservatives livid.

Until we can find a more permanent solution or we decide to drill more of our own oil, Americans will most likely be paying a lot more at the pump than they want to.

5. State tax rates

As technology continues to improve, cars become more and more fuel-efficient. When there are more Toyota Priuses roaming the roads

that are getting 40-plus mpg, state tax revenue on gasoline falls.

Some states, such as California and New York, have added gasoline tax rates of 48.6 and 49 cents per gallon, respectively, according to a March 5 article by Jim Motavalli on *Forbes.com*.

Gas companies have no choice but to absorb these taxes and increase their prices in order to maintain their profit margin.

Andy Rao is a junior in finance and accounting. Please send comments to news@kstatecollegian.com.

Economic interdependence key to efficiency, professor says

Andy Rao
news editor

Economic interdependence is a term that has been met with mixed reaction, especially after outsourcing fever hit the globe during the last decade. Events such as the Greek debt crisis now affect the entire world.

Daniel Kuester, director of undergraduate studies of economics, said there are pros and cons to economic interdependence.

"Looking at the situation in Greece, for example, their debt is tied to the European Union which will definitely have an adverse effect on Europe," Kuester said. "If the European Union defaults, it could raise some concerns about U.S. debt as well."

The interconnected nature of today's global economy ensures that nations from all

over the world depend on each other to succeed. If Europe's economy struggles, it will create a ripple effect that can be felt at home.

"The EU is one of our biggest trade partners and their economic instability can weaken demand for our goods and services," Kuester said.

Kuester also said, however, that economic interdependence brings its share of advantages.

"It makes sense that countries started looking to the outside to meet their needs," he said. "Combining our skill sets helps us increase our efficiency and productivity."

Comparative advantage is a concept that Kuester spoke about extensively, saying that countries all have their specializations in producing certain goods and services more efficiently than other countries.

According to Pat Caldwell, management instructor, globalization has allowed econo-

mies to streamline processes by finding cost-effective solutions to problems.

"There are some countries out there that have a lot to offer," Caldwell said. "They have a lot of advantages in technical areas, especially with countries like India producing extremely talented workers who businesses can generally hire for less."

Caldwell and Kuester both said that they favored the free market system, saying that although the increasingly interdependent worldwide economy can cause high unemployment.

"It can be a painful process and you can certainly make a case that it's the government's responsibility to help ease the unemployment rates, but I think globalization will help the economy as a whole," Kuester said.

Chase Downing, sophomore in business administration, said that interdependence

also has political benefits.

"I think that economic interdependence can certainly strengthen national security," Downing said. "Interdependence economically gives great incentive for nations to foster more prosperous, free-trade models that can improve the growth of industries at home while also supporting free market private sector trading abroad, a win-win in capitalistic terms."

According to Caldwell, students can prepare for changes in the global economy by acquiring skill sets that are in demand. Better technical skills, along with higher levels of education and an increased desire to succeed, were all qualities that Caldwell said students should look to acquire.

"We need something to get us fired up again," he said. "We need more competition to motivate us, because competition is good. Our students need to find a way to make them-

selves more valuable and need to develop skills that are in demand."

Kuester agreed, suggesting that "STEM" jobs — science, technology, engineering, mathematics — as well as foreign language skills are positions that seem to be most in demand.

"I'm not saying that you have to be an engineer or be in a technical industry to succeed, because there's a lot you can do with a college education," Kuester said. "But I think that these are the jobs that will continue to be in high demand, so people who are in other fields need to realize that there will be a tradeoff in money or other economic incentives."

Downing also said that students should be prepared for more international experiences, saying that K-State and other universities around the country are attempting to ready students for the increased, global competition.

Along with studying abroad, he said that professional development and networking are tools that students should utilize.

"College institutions, particularly Kansas State, sponsor countless opportunities throughout the year for students to get their foot in the door with businesses and larger corporations in their fields, and just as importantly, they help build a solid foundation to help spring overall professional development and networking," Downing said.

Despite the high unemployment rate and the slow economy, Kuester said he remains optimistic that U.S. economy will make a recovery.

"We have to compete in a global economy now, and even though we are experiencing those growing pains, it still has a lot of advantages," Kuester said. "We need to acquire those skill sets that carry more demand worldwide, which I

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Overconsumption threatens natural resources, future of world



Andy Rao

Living in the U.S. has its perks. In comparison to much of the world, the majority of Americans can depend on the fact that they will have access to necessities such as clean air, water and food. However, we sometimes get accustomed to having basic needs met, which leads to enormous amounts of waste and overconsumption.

Overconsumption is running rampant in the United States. Our society has adopted the mentality that more is better, and that can have dangerous results. We have altered the way we eat, drink and live in order to gain the best "bang for our buck."

For example, last weekend, my roommate brought in peaches that his mother had grown naturally in their backyard as a part of her garden. I was astounded at how small the peaches were.

The discrepancy between the size of natural peaches and processed, pesticide-filled peaches that many of us buy at the grocery store was alarming.

Do we really need our peaches to be five times their natural size? Why does our food have to look like it has been irradiated and engorged with chemicals for us to enjoy it?

Another example of overindulgence in American society is alcohol. Although the U.S. ranks 22nd in terms of per capita alcohol intake, according to an article by David Hanson of the State University of New York, binge drinking is a bigger problem than ever.

It goes along with the mentality that there's no such thing as too much. The habitual abuse of alcohol, especially among the younger generation of high school and college-age students, is

increasing.

College students around the nation are now accustomed to the term "YOLO," an acronym for "you only live once," as an additional reason to take in massive amounts of alcohol. What may have been an enjoyable night coupled with a few drinks now turns into a sloppy, blacked-out blur that hardly ever results in anything positive.

Excessiveness strikes again.

Underlying this culture of excessive intake is the issue of limited resources. As the planet's population continues to skyrocket and countries continue to industrialize in an effort to meet rising demands for goods and services, natural resources such as oil, clean air and fertile farmland continue to dwindle.

People now have unprecedented accessibility to an array of goods and services that previously were only available to the wealthy. More and more people now own smart phones, plasma TVs and luxury cars.

Although changes in technology and medical advances have brought a higher average life expectancy, this could be a double-edged sword. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the average life expectancy was 78.7 years in 2010, 10.2 years longer than in 1950.

Longer lives means more mouths to feed, and more mouths to feed means that we have to pump out more fuel, natural gas and other resources to produce enough for everyone.

If we do not drastically

decrease the rate at which we use goods, human beings will put themselves in an irreparable situation. Eventually, we will run out of resources, and at this pace, that day seems like it's coming sooner rather than later.

What kind of world will we leave our future generations? That depends on the choices that we make today. Using only what we

need instead of consuming everything that we can get our hands on will leave this planet in habitable condition for those who come after us.

Drawing the line between needs and wants is instrumental. Don't get me wrong, people should be able to

enjoy life's luxuries, but luxuries should be exactly that: those things in life that are occasionally enjoyed in moderation.

Take a step back and self-examine. Do you really need all of the things that you consume? How much do you

waste? Are there areas in your life that you can cut excessive intake?

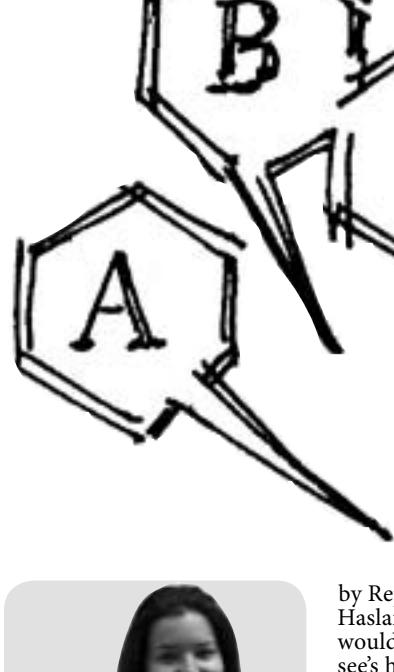
These are all questions we should be asking ourselves. After all, more does not always mean better.

Andy Rao is a junior in finance and accounting. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.



Illustration by Erin Logan

Realistic sexual education should be taught in schools



Kelsey McClelland

There comes a time in everyone's adolescence when parents decide it's time to educate their children about the birds and the bees, a conversation so notorious that it has been deemed "The Talk."

As embarrassing as it is to endure our parents talking to us about sex, the practice is a necessary one to our culture. These talks are occurring at younger and younger ages, but parents are no longer the deciding factor in their child's sexual education. Whether parents are even qualified to educate their children about sex is also debatable. The only guarantee that a child has access to well-rounded sexual education is to ensure that it is available in schools.

According to a June 24 Associated Press article by Lucas Johnson II, a recent pro-abstinence bill known as the "no holding-hands bill" passed in Tennessee. This bill, which was recently signed into law, promotes pro-abstinence sex ed and would also bar educators from promoting "gateway sexual activity." According to the article, "One thing missing from the debate in the Legislature was a discussion of whether the law signed

by Republican Gov. Bill Haslam last month really would help reduce Tennessee's high teenage pregnancy rate." However, experts think it "leaves teenagers inadequately educated about sexuality and prevention of pregnancy and disease."

Tennessee has one of the highest teen pregnancies in the nation, with 29.6 pregnancies per 1,000 girls in 2009, according to the New York-based Guttmacher Institute, a reproductive health research organization.

Rumor has it that abstinence is, in fact, the most reliable way to prevent pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, but just because it's being taught doesn't mean it's being practiced.

According to an April 10 article by Amanda Beadle on thinkprogress.org, "37 states require sex education that includes abstinence, 26 of which require abstinence to be stressed as the best method." The article also stated that Mississippi, the U.S. state with the highest teen birth rate at 55 births per 1,000 girls, does not require sex education in schools. However, when it is taught, the state standard is abstinence-only.

I've been through my fair share of classes that educate students not to drink, not to do drugs and not to smoke

cigarettes. Sure enough, I've consumed alcoholic beverages and, until recently, was a cigarette smoker.

Insert gasps of shock here. The point is, just because we tell children not to do something, it doesn't mean they aren't going to do it. Eventually, they will have sex, and when that time comes, it would be much safer for them to have a thorough knowledge rather than having no idea how to protect themselves.

A classic movie line comes to mind every time I read about another school implementing an abstinence-only sex education plan.

Coach Carr, an ill-equipped

sexual educator, said it best in the popular movie "Mean Girls": "Don't have sex, because you will get pregnant and die."

We live in a culture where entertainment and pop culture are becoming more and more risqué. What was considered inappropriate for children 20 years ago isn't necessarily considered inappropriate for children now.

Music, movies and video games have become much more graphic, in depictions of both violence and sexuality.

How many parents will allow their sixth-grader to watch a PG-13 movie?

How many parents will

allow their eighth-grader to watch an R-rated movie?

Kids who have access to the Internet have an even greater danger of being exposed to an adult world that their parents would rather censor.

Children gain a greater knowledge of sex through television, movies, music, the Internet and even the daily news. It doesn't make any sense to restrain sexual education in the only place that should be doing the educating: schools.

There is no way to shelter children from a sexual education, but would you rather their education happen in a controlled school setting or after stumbling upon their older brother's porn collection?

Kelsey McClelland is a senior in mass communications. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

STREET TALK

What is your favorite video game and why?

"Barbie Land.' You get to make a city full of Barbies and if you're the only guy in there, those are pretty good odds."

Josh Smith
graduate student, business

"Mostly I just play 'Wii Sports' because I'm too lazy to change the disc."

Savvi Neufer
graduate student, geography

"'Skyrim.' I like RPGs, I guess. It's fun to completely customize a character like that and do whatever you want."

Josh Beyer
senior, microbiology

"'Batman: Arkham City.' It basically has everything in one game."

Talal Al-Khaled
sophomore, human resources management

"I like shooting games, so like 'Call of Duty,' but I haven't played in a while."

Jeremy Keen
graduate student, kinesiology

"'Super Mario,' the [NES] version. It reminds me of when I was a kid. It takes me back to fun times. It was the originator of all games."

Jasmine Walker
senior, public relations

"I don't play because I feel like if I have any free time I should be studying."

Jazmin Richmond
senior, nutritional sciences

"'Gears of War 3.' I like the graphics and the action."

Frank Martello
senior, history

Video games enrich life, culture, should be considered art



Joshua Madden

In 2010, esteemed film critic Roger Ebert wrote a column titled "Video games can never be art," defending a position he had taken earlier.

In fairness, he softens his stance a bit later in the article when he says, "perhaps it is foolish of me to say 'never,' because never, as Rick Wakeman informs us, is a long, long time."

The problem is that Ebert was still wrong, although in yet another 2010 article titled, "Okay, kids, play on my lawn," Ebert backed off even further, saying that "I concluded without a definition that satisfied me. I had to be prepared to agree that gamers can have an experience that, for them, is Art."

Having grown up in one of the first generations to have access to video games since birth, I struggled to come up with any definition for the term "art" that would not include video games. If I were to define art as something that's aesthetically pleasing, that would undoubtedly

include games like "Halo" that depict beautiful fictional worlds. If I were to define art as something that can make me look at life on a deeper level, that would undoubtedly include the fascinating "Legend of Zelda" series.

However I define art, it would include video games. For all of the criticism of the unoriginality of the later entries in the "Call of Duty" series, I believe they still say more about the politics of warfare than most political columns do. To dismiss them as incapable of being art because you can win or lose the game is foolish.

One of the most interesting things about this debate is that it speaks to something larger: we often dismiss things of incredible artistic merit on technicalities when, at the end of the day, it doesn't really matter. I offer this definition of art: anything capable of changing or enhancing the way we look at the world.

I would challenge anyone to read Walter Isaacson's "Steve Jobs" and tell me that it doesn't affect them in a powerful way. Yet many would claim it is not art because it's a biography, despite the fact that the way Isaacson weaves together a narrative is undoubtedly artistic.

I would challenge anyone to watch Richard Nixon's "Checkers" speech and tell

me that it doesn't make them look at the world in a different way. The "Checkers" speech may have very well been a defensive speech from a politician — not exactly what we would think of as art — and yet the way the speech is structured is beautiful. That speech has enriched my view of humanity in a way that a lot of books and films have not.

The idea that video games are not art purely because they are video games is beyond foolish. Mark Neveldine and Brian Taylor, known as "Neveldine/Taylor," have directed a multitude of awful films, including "Crank: High Voltage," "Jonah Hex," "Gamer" and "Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance." Is there really anyone who believes that these two are more artistically talented than those who made the "Halo" games? Of course not.

Art is whatever has the potential to move us. While we may literally move Master Chief around the screen, we're also being moved ourselves as we ask how far we would be willing to go to save humanity or the ones we love.

If that's not art, then I don't know what is.

Joshua Madden is a non-degree seeking graduate student. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.



Illustration by Parker Wilhelm

'Portal 2' fan video goes viral with over 2 million hits in one week

Karen Ingram
edge/online editor

It took two years of hard work, patience and pizza, but Jason Craft got his 15 minutes of fame. Craft, a resident of Ramsey, Minn., and a lead composer for Ghost Productions, created a fan video of the video game "Portal 2" and scored more than 2 million views on Vimeo and YouTube.

The video follows three friends as they try out their new Portal gun and begin using it to climb through walls and floors while funky techno music plays in the background. A small rivalry begins as two of them begin picking on each other, and one of them ends up getting sucked into an infinite loop before being tossed out onto the lawn. Funny. The short film follows the rules and physics of the video game

Courtesy photo
This screenshot, from a Japanese news program, shows co-creator **Adam Rogers** wielding Jason Craft's realistic re-creation of the gun from "Portal 2."

and the gun looks so real, people have asked Craft where he got it. But it's not real: it's just a coffee can and some computer magic.

Craft got the idea more than two years ago when he first heard "Portal 2" was coming out. A fan of the first game, Craft noticed the fan videos online were pretty tame.

"I could do so much better than that," Craft said. "So that's what I did."

First, Craft had to figure out if he could convincingly make a Portal gun with 3-D software.

"If I couldn't make the gun look real, I wasn't even going to make the video," he said.

Once he decided it looked good, he had to map out the camera movements, angles and blocking. He enlisted the help of his brother, Mike, and his friend Adam Rogers, to film the video, which took about eight hours and a pizza as payment. They used a coffee can with markers on it as the gun, which he would later replace with the computer-animated version.

Here's where the real work came. Craft worked on his video

diligently on his time off from work for two years. This was his least favorite part of the process; he did not anticipate just how long it would take to make the video. And there were other challenges, such as the part where the camera man walks by a portal on the floor and looks down. It took a long time to get it to look right. But in the end, Craft said he was very happy with how it turned out, especially with how the gun looked.

Craft said he figured the video would get more hits than average, because it was so different from other Portal videos, but he was surprised by the small explosion of attention it garnered. In less than a week, it got a combined 2 million hits on Vimeo and YouTube, it was a featured video on Yahoo, and he was even interviewed by a Japanese news station. But soon after, things began to quiet down and life returned to normal. Now Craft's friends want to make another video.

Piece of cake, right?

Video game critic 'Yahtzee' inspires laughter, fear in viewers

Karen Ingram
edge/online editor

I thought about writing up a short piece on E3, the big video game expo that happened in Los Angeles a few weeks ago, but there's nothing I can possibly say that Yahtzee hasn't said better. If you like video games and you don't know who Ben "Yahtzee" Croshaw is, you should hang your head in shame.

Yahtzee is a British man who moved to Australia and reviews video games for a living. His video series, Zero Punctuation, has been featured on The Escapist since 2007. The Escapist claims that gamers love

him and video game developers fear him, but I think there's a healthy amount of fear to go around for everyone. This is the kind of guy that you wish was your best friend, but you're afraid to befriend him because you know what he's capable of if you ever cross him.

Yahtzee is scathing and utterly ruthless in his weekly reviews, tearing apart not only the game, but pop culture, children and anything else that annoys him in rapid-fire monologues that will leave you reeling. Adding to the fun is the animation used in his videos featuring imps, Godzilla monsters, lewd captions and anything he can think of that might make you

blush and giggle shamefully. I usually have to watch each of his videos at least twice because I'm laughing so hard, I miss some of his gags the first time around.

For more Yahtzee fun, there's also his blog "Extra Punctuation," which is also featured on The Escapist, and his own blog "Fully Ramblomatic." He has even begun venturing into other areas of writing, namely fiction. Two Christmases ago, my sister gave me a book of short stories entitled "The Machine of Death." As I browsed the games of the authors on the back, I spotted Yahtzee among the contributors and was so excited I did a happy dance. My

sister had no idea who Yahtzee was, so it was just a happy coincidence. He has also published the novels "Mogworld" and "Jam," the latter of which is due out this October.

So, for all of you gamers out

there who think you'd like to be a critic, don't bother. You can't outdo Yahtzee. And honestly, why would you even want to try?

Courtesy photo
Ben 'Yahtzee' Croshaw, a British man who currently lives in Australia, has found Internet fame through his scathing video reviews.



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COUNTRY STAMPEDE



A group of country music fans dance and clap to the music of the Zac Brown Band during Country Stampede on Friday night. The festival, in its 17th year, ran from Thursday to Sunday night at Tuttle Creek State Park.



Chase Anderson, resident of Hays, struggles to stay mounted on a mechanical bull during Country Stampede on Friday night.



Cassie Gerstner, senior in secondary education, sits in the Kite's Bar and Grille dunk tank at Tuttle Creek State Park on Friday. Gerstner, who works as a waitress and bartender at Kite's, volunteered to work the game in return for a free four-day pass to the festival.

Tyler Kessly, of Wichita, and **Melissa Hunter**, of Topeka, dance to the music of the Zac Brown Band during Country Stampede on Friday night.

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Study: lack of sleep increases chance of stroke

Andy Rao
news editor

Students attribute poor time management, busy schedules to lack of sleep

Late nights at the library and cramming for finals or a big group project are a necessary evil for many college students. Coupling that with partying habits on the weekend and hectic schedules filled with other activities during the week can prevent students from getting a good night's sleep.

Although some might consider lack of sleep a fact of life for college students, a new study released this month by the National Sleep Foundation found that adults who get six hours of sleep or less a night are four times more likely to suffer a stroke.

Caitlin Estes, senior in accounting, said she gets three to four hours of sleep a night during the semester.

"I know I don't get enough sleep every night," Estes said. "There's always something to distract you, whether it's homework, Facebook or even people just wanting to hang out."

Strokes are caused by the restriction of blood flow to the brain and can be triggered by a lack of sleep, according to a June 11 article by Janice Lloyd in USA Today. The article also listed strokes as the fourth leading cause of death in the U.S.

According to the National Sleep Foundation, only 28 percent of people in the U.S. report getting eight or more hours of sleep a night. Experts recommend seven to nine hours of sleep.

Megan Ruiter, lead author of the report, said that although people are accustomed to hearing the importance of maintaining proper exercise and diet habits, the average person does not know the true impact that



photo illustration by Hannah Hunsinger | Collegian

A recent study found that people who get fewer than six hours of sleep per night are four times more likely to suffer a stroke. Only about 30 percent of people in the U.S. sleep for eight or more hours nightly.

a lack of sleep can have on the body.

"The public is less aware of the impact of insufficient amounts of sleep," Ruiter said in the report. "Sleep is important; the body is stressed when it doesn't get the right amount."

Estes said one method students could use to get more sleep is to be more efficient with time and implement self-set bed times.

"I think students in general need to do a better job of planning out their days and making time for sleep," she said. "I know for me, half the time I don't get sleep, it's because of school-work, but the other half, I know, it's me procrastinating and staying up late when I don't need to. I need to get better at not doing that."

The main strategy to maintain a regular sleep cycle is understanding time commitments

and planning accordingly, said Audrey Trowbridge, junior in secondary education.

Trowbridge said that she usually gets at least seven hours of sleep every night and that she tries to go to sleep at 11 p.m. so she can start her day early.

"I feel like I get enough sleep most of the time," Trowbridge said. "On days that I have stuff going on night, I usually make time for naps or make sure that I don't stay up too late if I have something the next morning."

For some students, however, balancing sleep with other commitments can be more challenging.

Jordan Maxwell, sophomore in mechanical engineering, recently started a night shift at GTM Sportswear and plans on keeping that schedule during the semester. Starting in August, Maxwell will work from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. during

the week and then will have to wake up for his classes, which start at 8:30 p.m. on most days.

"It'll be tough to get enough sleep with my schedule, but I know I'll be fine if I manage my time right," Maxwell said.

Maxwell said he plans on making sleep a priority, although he may have to cut into his social life.

"It's definitely important that we get enough sleep," he said. "There are some nights that you have tests or work or just stuff going on, but it's best if you can make time to sleep whenever possible."

Estes agreed, saying that she feels much better when she gets a full night's sleep.

"I've started to get more sleep during the summer and it feels amazing," she said. "Now that I know that you're more likely to have a stroke, I'm definitely going to try to sleep more."

Weekly Manhattan area news briefs

Karen Ingram
edge editor/online editor

Fire at Salvation Army causes \$150k damage, cause ruled as arson

Fire investigators from the Manhattan Fire Department, in cooperation with the Riley County Police Department, have determined the fire at The Salvation Army at 310 Poynz Ave. was caused by arson. The fire originated in the middle of the building on Saturday morning.

According to Ryan Almes, deputy chief of technical services for MFD, the fire caused an estimated \$100,000 in damage to the structure of the building and approximately \$50,000 in damage to the content.

There were no injuries reported. The incident is still under investigation.

Manhattan Fire Dept. asks citizens to be responsible on Fourth of July

The Manhattan Fire Department issued a press release Monday asking Manhattan citizens to exercise caution while celebrating the Fourth of July holiday this year. Fire Marshall Ryan Almes said an estimated 8,000 people in the U.S. are admitted to emergency rooms for injuries related to fireworks each year. Half

of those victims are under the age of 15. Fireworks are also responsible for approximately 1,000 residential fires each year.

The City of Manhattan allows citizens to discharge fireworks on July 1-4 between 8 a.m. and midnight. It is unlawful to discharge fireworks in streets, alleyways, parks or public property, or to throw or shoot fireworks at people or vehicles. It is advised to keep water nearby and exercise caution with children. Sparklers and other fireworks often used by children burn at high temperatures and can be as dangerous as matches or a lighter in the hands of children. For more information on Manhattan City ordinances regarding fireworks please visit cityofmhk.com/fireworks.

Jason Aldean to headline Country Stampede 2013

Country music singer Jason Aldean has been announced as a headliner of Country Stampede 2013. Aldean has had two platinum albums, his 2005 self-titled debut album and 2009 album "Wide Open." He has won awards from the CMT Music Awards, Academy of Country Music, Billboard Music Awards and more. Aldean previously performed at the Country Stampede in 2006.



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OGDEN | Leaves in graves evidence of premeditation

Continued from page 1

three or four days," Tomb said. "I favor the middle to end of that over one day."

Tomb said he arrived at that conclusion because he found leaves at the bottom of the grave that came from a tree above the site. The defense team asked Tomb during the trial if it was a possibility that wind or something else forced the leaves to the grave during the same time Aguirre was burying the bodies, but Tomb refuted that possibility, saying that the grave would have leaves from more than one tree.

"The thing is, the leaves don't fall off trees in one fell swoop," Tomb said.

Both the prosecution and the Riley County Police Department said Tomb's testimony was pivotal in the case.

"Proving premeditation is crucial in a capital murder case, and his testimony was invaluable to that," said Jeff Hooper, RCPD captain and the lead investigator on the case.

Riley County Assistant Attorney Barry Disney also credited Tomb with proving a huge part of the case against Aguirre.

"He did a great job," Disney said.

Hooper said the RCPD often uses K-State resources to help with various criminal cases.

"We are really lucky to be so close to Kansas State University," Hooper said. "We have used resources from there before, and they are a great help."

This was not Tomb's first time assisting the county in criminal cases either.

"I had testified before for the RCPD and the county attorney in some marijuana trials," Tomb said.

However, Tomb also said testifying before a jury on a double-murder case and studying the grave site was a totally different experience for him.

"It was tense, but I have a lot of teaching experience, and I looked at it as another opportunity to inform and teach," Tomb said. "I got the practice with the two attorneys and the judge before I presented it to the jury. I practiced the PowerPoint several times, and I pretty well knew the questions the defense attorney was going to ask me. I was a little afraid that I was overprepared. I went through that PowerPoint about five to six times before I presented it."

He also said the experience of working on a gravesite where two dead bodies were present was also different.

"When we got to the grave on the first day, there were body parts sticking out of the ground," Tomb said. "The grave was very shallow. It was a very grisly sight."

Disney confirmed that Riley County officials are asking the jury to sentence Aguirre to the death penalty.

"I think it is appropriate in this case," Hooper said. "With two first-degree murder convictions of a mother and child, I agree with the death penalty in this case."

Sentencing in the case is set for July 9. The jury will decide whether to grant the county's request of giving Aguirre the death penalty, or to sentence him to life in prison without parole.

Duluth flooding causes severe damage

Jakki Thompson
staff writer

Living in the Midwest region of the United States teaches people how to prepare for many different types of weather conditions. Growing up, kids often learn from their parents how to prepare for four inches of snow one day and 60 degrees and sunny the next; the weather is infamously sporadic and ever-changing.

When the thunder and lightning hit the Twin Cities in Minnesota, it seemed like it was raining pretty hard. Just four hours north on the shores of Lake Superior, however, it was storming even harder.

Duluth, Minn., got hit with enough rain to submerge cars and destroy roads. With the Fourth of July weekend quickly approaching, the intense flooding was devastating to a large tourist industry, both at the state and national level.

"One of the worst parts I've seen has been the destruction of the roads," said Nicole Beaver, resident of Duluth. "It's

crazy to think that water could do that much damage. Half of the roads here aren't drivable because of the amount of rock and debris that came down the hill. Downtown Duluth is going to be under construction a lot this summer."

Even though Duluth is located on an incline, the storm caused major flooding and other damage. Many roads have massive potholes or cracks in them, making them unsafe for vehicles.

The water levels on the streets in Duluth covered cars and deluged basements. People were seen wading and swimming through areas that were once streets and yards.

The Duluth Zoo also flooded, and there have been reports of animals floating over their cages and escaping and wading down the streets.

"Honestly, it's sad when human lives are lost, it really is," said Niki Stevens, student at University of Minnesota Duluth. "It absolutely breaks my heart, though, that these animals were taken into cap-

tivity for our enjoyment and then die all too soon. They can't speak for themselves, and they can't unlock their cages. Completely stuck, with nowhere to go, and they don't even get noticed. It just breaks my heart."

"Our school is very much based around the sense of community and giving back to the community."

Nicole Engen
resident of Duluth, Minn.

trance to St. Scholastica was damaged in the floods.

"Our school is very much based around the sense of community and giving back to the community," Engen said. "I expect the first couple of weeks of school, our president will be calling for action on the students to volunteer during this time to help clean up."

The mayor has said city employees are working diligently to continue to clear the streets of Duluth. The city has been reopened to residents and vacationers.

Despite the negative effects of the flooding, the natural disaster had a positive effect: a stronger community bond. People in need tend to come together whether the situation is local or national.

"As unfortunate as the flood was, I think this will be a great opportunity for me, personally, to give back to my community, and to step up for anyone who needs help because of being affected by the floods," Engen said.

BLOTTER | Arrest reports

Continued from page 2

Anthony Orion Jones, of Salina, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$268.

Jeremy Michael Spaur, of the 600 block of Yuma Street, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$2,500.

Felix Aldoyn Vazquez, of the 1400 block of Colorado Street, was booked for driving under the influence, possession of drug paraphernalia and unlawful possession of hallucinogens. Bond was set at \$2,500.

Gregory Lee Gathers, of Topeka, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$500.

Sarah Lynn Johnson, of the 900 block of Ratone Street, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$500.

Kenneth Ray Porter, of the 1100 block of Meadowbrook Lane, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$1,500.

Alaise Shannon Singson, of Ogden, was booked for probation violation. Bond was set at \$5,000.

Taylor Devin Lowe, of Dexter, Kan., was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$500.

Shengcao Chen, of the 1100 block of Yuma Street, was booked for obstructing the legal process and no driver's license. Bond was set at \$1,000.

Sharla Yvette Gray, of Kansas City, Mo., was booked for domestic battery. Bond was set at \$500.

Taylor Devin Lowe, of

Dexter, Kan., was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$268.

Jeremy Michael Spaur, of the 600 block of Yuma Street, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$2,500.

Rebecca Murry Donovan, of the 2700 block of Moehlman Road, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$100.

Dane Michael Johnson, of Yates Center, Kan., was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$1,000.

Robert Barry Adams, of the 500 block of Thurston Street, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$750.

Sara Perez-Varela, of Junction City, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$500.

Kyla Esther Salsgiver, of Overland Park, Kan., was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$500.

Eric Antony Petrocelli, of the 700 block of Laramie Street, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$1,000.

Haider Siddiq Mehr, of Fort Riley, was booked for battery against a law enforcement officer and disorderly conduct. Bond was set at \$1,000.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Derrick Robert Kratzberg, of Garnett, Kan., was booked for battery, unlawful possession of hallucinogens and use or possession of paraphernalia to introduce into the human body. Bond was set at \$2,500.

Christopher Douglass Wilson, of Springfield, Mo., was booked for use or possession of paraphernalia to introduce into the human body and unlawful possession of hallucinogens. Bond was set at \$500.

David Alexander Prieto, of Topeka, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$500.

Michael Eugene Anthony Fair, of Wichita, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$500.

Alvaro Porras Hernandez, of the 4100 block of Will Kent Drive, was booked for no driver's license. Bond was set at \$750.

Joshua Dale Bonwell, of the 300 block of Stone Drive, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$500.

Michelle Lee Leonard, of the 500 block of Brookmont Drive, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$500.

Anthony Matteo Piccolo, of the 1600 block of Cedar Crest Drive, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set at \$1,500.

James Matthew Berry, of Quenemo, Kan., was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$500.

Compiled by Laura Thacker

Arrest reports
See kstatecollegian.com for the rest of the Blotter.

Who would win in a fistfight - Mr. Clean or the Brawny Paper Towels guy?

Mr. Clean	24%
The Brawny Paper Towels guy	10%
Pat Bosco	66%

Vote on this week's poll at kstatecollegian.com: Who educated you about sex when you were a kid?

BOBBY T'S | Music is 'a lot of work,' musicians say

Continued from page 1

the band's needs.

"Music is just my passion," Taylor said. "It's not about money, it's about spreading a positive message."

Bandmate Sam Means, lead guitar player and resident of Abilene, Kan., said he got into music at the age of 12 when he first heard Jimi Hendrix's "Purple Haze."

Means has four children living at home, all of whom are involved in music. His son, who is turning 4 years old this week, is getting a drumset for his birthday, Means said.

"You see people dancing to what you created, there's no other feeling like it," Means said. "There's no other place you can put your emotion."

The Breakpoint Method, a Salina-based band, headlined Anti-Stampede. Unlike the other two bands, The Breakpoint Method is a full-time job for its members who tour all

over the U.S. The band was formed in 2008 and became serious about a year later. The members quit their day jobs to work full time on music and have done so ever since.

Barrett Jones, lead singer and rhythm guitar player for The Breakpoint Method, said his favorite part about touring was hanging out with his best friends.

"It's knowing that four friends got together and made this happen," Jones said. "We said we were going to do this, and we did it."

Jimmy Lands, lead guitar player for The Breakpoint Method, said his least favorite part about touring was vehicle breakdowns, which happened far more often than he would have liked. Saturday night's breakdown: a busted trailer tire.

"People think that being in a band is just fun," Lands said. "But it's a lot of work."

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